

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A support shelf for supporting a load in a rack system of either a two-post or
2 four-post design, said support comprising:
3 a base;
4 said base having an upper surface capable of supporting the load;
5 a slide; and
6 said slide capable of attaching only to the base such that the base may be moved with
7 respect to the rack system.
- 1 2. The support shelf of Claim 1, wherein the load is equipment not designed or modified
2 to be coupled with the rack system.
- 1 3. The support shelf of Claim 2, wherein the equipment is electrical equipment.
- 1 4. The support shelf of Claim 3, wherein the electrical equipment is selected from the
2 group consisting of: desktop computers, tower computers, tape drives, hubs and switches.
- 1 5. The support shelf of Claim 1, wherein the slide includes means for providing smooth
2 movement of the base with respect to the rack system without need for ball bearings.
- 1 6. The support shelf of Claim 5, wherein the means for providing smooth movement
2 includes an inner slide member and an outer slide member.
- 1 7. The support shelf of Claim 6, wherein the inner slide member and the outer slide
2 member are coupled via fasteners constructed of a low friction material.
- 1 8. The support shelf of Claim 7, wherein the low friction material is brass.
- 1 9. The support shelf of Claim 1, wherein the support shelf further includes means for
2 attachment to the rack system regardless of the depth of the rack system.
- 1 10. The support shelf of Claim 9, wherein the means for attachment includes a conversion
2 bracket.

- 1 11. The support shelf of Claim 1, wherein the rack system is of a two-post design.
- 1 12. The support shelf of Claim 1, wherein the rack system is of a four-post design.
- 1 13. The support shelf of Claim 1, wherein the base includes means to accommodate loads
2 of varying width.
- 1 14. The support shelf of Claim 13, wherein the means to accommodate includes a varied
2 orientation of the base with respect to the rack system.
- 1 15. The support shelf of Claim 1, wherein the base further includes means for
2 management of cabling associated with the equipment, said means for management capable
3 of independent movement with respect to the base and with respect to the rack system.
- 1 16. The support shelf of Claim 15, wherein the means for management of cabling tracks
2 movement of the base with respect to the rack system.
- 1 17. The support shelf of Claim 1, further including means for reducing movement of the
2 load.
- 1 18. The support shelf of Claim 17, wherein the means for reducing movement of the load
2 comprises at least one hole in the base, said at least one hole corresponding in location and
3 size to at least one support means of the load.
- 1 19. The support shelf of Claim 17, wherein the means for reducing movement of the load
2 includes at least one slot in the base and an anti-slip mat placed between the base and the
3 load.

- 1 20. A support shelf for supporting a load not designed or modified to be coupled to a rack
2 system in a rack system of either a two-post or four-post design, said support comprising:
3 a base;
4 said base having an upper surface capable of supporting the load;
5 a slide capable of providing movement of the base with respect to the rack system; and
6 said base capable of supporting varying widths of the load via altered orientation of the
7 base.
- 1 21. The support shelf of Claim 20, wherein the support shelf includes means to couple
2 with rack systems of various depths.

1 22. A method for supporting a load not designed or modified to couple with a rack system
2 by a support shelf within the rack system having either a two-post design or a four-post
3 design, said support shelf including a base, said method comprising the steps of:

- 4 a. selection of a design of the rack system;
- 5 b. selection of orientation of the base to accommodate width of the load to be
6 supported;
- 7 c. if a two-post design is selected in Step a above, then utilizing a conversion
8 bracket to mount the base in either a centered or flushed position with respect
9 to the rack system; and
- 10 d. placing a load on the base to be supported.

1 23. The method of Claim 22, further including the step of coupling cables associated with
2 the load to be supported to means for cable management.